

Education Cabinet

Kentucky gains jobs in some areas

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Kentucky's July 2007's jobless rate was the same as July 2006's rate of 5.7 percent, according to the Office of Employment and Training (OET), an agency of the Kentucky Education Cabinet.

Kentucky's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 5.7 percent in July 2007 from 5.4 percent in June 2007, according to OET. The U.S. seasonally adjusted jobless rate increased from 4.5 percent in June 2007 to 4.6 percent in July 2007, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

Since July 2006, Kentucky's nonfarm employment has increased by 14,600. Three of the 11 major nonfarm job North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sectors reported employment increases in July, while seven decreased, and one was unchanged, according to OET. A decrease of 1,100 jobs in July 2007 brought Kentucky's nonfarm employment to a seasonally adjusted total of 1,853,500.

According to the seasonally adjusted employment data, the government sector, which includes public education, rose by 2,300 jobs in July 2007. Since July 2006, this sector has added 100 jobs.

The construction sector gained 600 jobs in July 2007. Since July 2006, employment in this job area has gone up by 3,100.

The natural resources and mining sector had 100 more jobs in July 2007 compared to June 2007. Since July 2006, the segment has risen by 400 jobs.

The number of jobs in the manufacturing sector remained the same from June 2007 to July 2007. Compared to July 2006, jobs in the sector were down by 200 in July 2007.

Kentucky's educational and health services sector has gained 3,000 jobs since July 2006. This sector dropped by 1,200 jobs in July 2007. This sector includes private and nonprofit establishments that provide either education and training, or health care and social assistance to their clients.

Jobs in the professional and business services sector had 4,000 more employees in July 2007 than in July 2006. The sector fell by 1,000 in July 2007. The professional and business services sector includes professional, scientific and technical services, and management of companies and administrative and support management, including temporary help agencies.

Since July 2006, employment in the leisure and hospitality sector has increased by 1,500 positions. This sector lost 900 jobs in July 2007. The leisure and hospitality sector includes arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodations and food services and drinking places industries.

Since July 2006, the number of jobs in Kentucky's trade, transportation and utilities sector has increased by 800. This sector recorded 500 fewer jobs in July 2007. This area includes retail and wholesale trade, transportation and utilities businesses, and warehousing, and is the largest sector in Kentucky with 380,100 employees.

The information sector had 100 more jobs in July 2007 than in July last year. This sector went down by 300 positions in July 2007. This segment includes firms involved in publishing, Internet activities and broadcasting and news syndication.

The financial activities sector has added 1,800 jobs over the past 12 months. This sector reported 100 fewer jobs in July 2007. This segment includes businesses involved in finance, insurance, real estate and property leasing or rental.

The state's other services sector, which includes such establishments as repair and maintenance places, personal and laundry services, religious organizations, and civic and professional organizations, had the same number of jobs in July 2007 and July 2006. This area lost 100 jobs in July 2007.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' monthly estimate of the number of employed Kentuckians for July 2007 was 1,934,283 on a seasonally adjusted basis. This figure is down 8,313 from the 1,942,596 employed in June 2007, but up 10,109 from the 1,924,174 employed in July 2006.

The monthly estimate of the number of unemployed Kentuckians for July 2007 was 117,088, up 5,740 from the 111,348 Kentuckians unemployed in June 2007, and up 933 from the 116,155 unemployed in July 2006.

The monthly estimate of the number of Kentuckians in the civilian labor force for July 2007 was 2,051,371. This figure is down 2,573 from the 2,053,944 recorded in June 2007, but up 11,042 from the 2,040,329 recorded for July 2006.

Unemployment statistics are based on estimates and are compiled to measure trends rather than actually to count people working. Civilian labor force statistics include non-military workers and unemployed Kentuckians who are actively seeking work. They do not include unemployed Kentuckians who have not looked for employment within the past four weeks.

Kentucky's statewide unemployment rate and employment levels are seasonally adjusted. Employment statistics undergo sharp fluctuations due to seasonal events, such as weather changes, harvests, holidays and school openings and closings. Seasonal adjustments eliminate these influences and make it easier to observe statistical trends. However, because of the small sample size, county unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted.

Learn more about the Office of Employment and Training at www.workforce.ky.gov.